

DRAFT (17 October 2003) List of *Bird Species of Special Concern in California* Arranged Taxonomically within Five Subsections, Including Three Priority Levels of Ranked Taxa^a; Boldfaced Taxa also Occur on the *Responsibility List of Birds in California*

Taxa Assigned to the List Based Solely on the BSSC Definition

Taxa Extirpated from the State Totally or in their Primary Seasonal or Breeding Role (5 taxa)

Common Loon (breeding)	(<i>Gavia immer</i>)
Barrow's Goldeneye (breeding)	(<i>Bucephala islandica</i>)
Sharp-tailed Grouse (year round)	(<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus</i>)
San Clemente Bewick's Wren (year round)	(<i>Thryomanes bewickii leucophrys</i>)
Santa Barbara Song Sparrow ^b (year round)	(<i>Melospiza melodia graminea</i> , sensu AOU 1957)

Taxa Listed as Federally, but not State, Threatened or Endangered (6 taxa)

Short-tailed Albatross	(<i>Phoebastria albatrus</i>)
Snowy Plover (coastal population)	(<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>)
Northern Spotted Owl	(<i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i>)
San Clemente Loggerhead Shrike^c	(<i>Lanius ludovicianus mearnsi</i>)
Alta California Gnatcatcher	(<i>Polioptila californica californica</i>)
San Clemente Sage Sparrow^d	(<i>Amphispiza belli clementeae</i>)

Taxa Assigned to the List by Ranking Schemes

First Priority (22 taxa)

Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel	(<i>Oceanodroma furcata</i>)
American White Pelican	(<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>)
Wood Stork	(<i>Mycteria americana</i>)
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	(<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>)
Harlequin Duck	(<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>)
Mountain Plover	(<i>Charadrius montanus</i>)
Gull-billed Tern	(<i>Sterna nilotica</i>)
Tufted Puffin	(<i>Fratercula cirrhata</i>)
Burrowing Owl	(<i>Athene cunicularia</i>)
Island Loggerhead Shrike	(<i>Lanius ludovicianus anthonyi</i>)
Gray Vireo	(<i>Vireo vicinior</i>)
Purple Martin	(<i>Progne subis</i>)
San Diego Cactus Wren	(<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis</i>)
Bendire's Thrasher	(<i>Toxostoma bendirei</i>)
Crissal Thrasher	(<i>Toxostoma crissale</i>)
Sonora Yellow Warbler	(<i>Dendroica petechia sonorana</i>)
San Francisco Common Yellowthroat	(<i>Geothlypis trichas sinuosa</i>)
Summer Tanager	(<i>Piranga rubra</i>)
San Clemente Spotted Towhee	(<i>Pipilo maculatus clementae</i>)
Alameda Song Sparrow	(<i>Melospiza melodia pusillula</i>)
Channel Island Song Sparrow^e	(<i>Melospiza melodia graminea</i> , sensu Patten 2001)
Tricolored Blackbird	(<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>)

Second Priority (25 taxa)

Ashy Storm-Petrel	(<i>Oceanodroma homochroa</i>)
Tule Greater White-fronted Goose	(<i>Anser albifrons elgasi</i>)
Redhead	(<i>Aythya americana</i>)
Northern Harrier	(<i>Circus cyaneus</i>)

Harris's Hawk	<i>(Parabuteo unicinctus)</i>
Greater Sage-Grouse	<i>(Centrocercus urophasianus)</i>
Mount Pinos Blue Grouse	<i>(Dendragapus obscurus howardi)</i>
Yellow Rail	<i>(Coturnicops noveboracensis)</i>
Lesser Sandhill Crane	<i>(Grus canadensis canadensis)</i>
Xantus's Murrelet	<i>(Synthliboramphus hypoleucus)</i>
Cassin's Auklet	<i>(Ptychoramphus aleuticus)</i>
Long-eared Owl	<i>(Asio otus)</i>
Short-eared Owl	<i>(Asio flammeus)</i>
Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>(Contopus cooperi)</i>
Loggerhead Shrike (<i>mainland populations</i>)	<i>(Lanius ludovicianus)</i>
Catalina Hutton's Vireo	<i>(Vireo huttoni unitti)</i>
Clark's Marsh Wren	<i>(Cistothorus palustris clarkae)</i>
Le Conte's Thrasher (<i>San Joaquin population</i>)	<i>(Toxostoma lecontei)</i>
Yellow Warbler	<i>(Dendroica petechia)</i>
Oregon Vesper Sparrow	<i>(Poocetes gramineus affinis)</i>
Large-billed Savannah Sparrow	<i>(Passerculus sandwichensis rostratus)</i>
Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>(Ammodramus savannarum)</i>
Samuel's Song Sparrow	<i>(Melospiza melodia samuelis)</i>
Kern Red-winged Blackbird	<i>(Agelaius phoeniceus aciculatus)</i>
Yellow-headed Blackbird	<i>(Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus)</i>
<i>Third Priority (24 taxa)</i>	
Black Storm-Petrel	<i>(Oceanodroma melania)</i>
Least Bittern	<i>(Ixobrychus exilis)</i>
Brant	<i>(Branta bernicla)</i>
Northern Goshawk	<i>(Accipiter gentilis)</i>
Prairie Falcon	<i>(Falco mexicanus)</i>
Catalina California Quail	<i>(Callipepla californica catalinensis)</i>
Snowy Plover (<i>interior population</i>)	<i>(Charadrius alexandrinus)</i>
Royal Tern	<i>(Sterna maxima)</i>
Elegant Tern	<i>(Sterna elegans)</i>
Black Tern	<i>(Chlidonias niger)</i>
Black Skimmer	<i>(Rynchops niger)</i>
Rhinoceros Auklet	<i>(Cerorhinca monocerata)</i>
California Spotted Owl	<i>(Strix occidentalis occidentalis)</i>
Black Swift	<i>(Cypseloides niger)</i>
Vaux's Swift	<i>(Chaetura vauxi)</i>
Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>(Pyrocephalus rubinus)</i>
California Horned Lark	<i>(Eremophila alpestris actia)</i>
California Swainson's Thrush	<i>(Catharus ustulatus oedicus)</i>
Lucy's Warbler	<i>(Vermivora luciae)</i>
Yellow-breasted Chat	<i>(Icteria virens)</i>
Santa Cruz Island Rufous-crowned Sparrow	<i>(Aimophila ruficeps obscura)</i>
Bryant's Savannah Sparrow	<i>(Passerculus sandwichensis alaudinus)</i>
Song Sparrow (<i>"Modesto" population</i>) ^f	<i>(Melospiza melodia)</i>
Suisun Song Sparrow	<i>(Melospiza melodia maxillaris)</i>

^a Subspecific taxonomy follows the AOU (1957) and subsequent revisions published in peer-reviewed journals; see species accounts for details.

^b Subspecific validity is uncertain. This subspecies, now extinct, was recognized by the AOU (1957), but has been merged by Patten (2001) with the San Miguel (*M. m. micronyx*) and San Clemente (*M. m. clementae*) Song Sparrows as the [Channel] Island Song Sparrow (*M. m. graminea*).

^c Subspecific identity of shrikes currently on San Clemente is uncertain. Mundy et al. (1997a, b) provided evidence *L. l. mearnsi* is genetically distinct from *L. l. gambeli* and *L. l. anthonyi*, whereas Patten and Campbell (2000) concluded, based on morphology, that the birds now on San Clemente are intergrades between *L. l. mearnsi* and *L. l. anthonyi*.

^d Subspecific validity uncertain. Recognized by AOU (1957), but not by Patten and Unitt (2002).

^e Subspecific validity uncertain; see comment above in footnote b regarding proposed merger of various island subspecies.

^f Recognized by AOU (1957), but not by Patten (2001).